



separate

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 sep·a·rate **Pronunciation Key** (sĕp'ə-rāt')

v. sep·a·rat·ed, sep·a·rat·ing, sep·a·rates

v. tr.

- a. To set or keep apart; disunite.
- b. To space apart; scatter: *small farms that were separated one from another by miles of open land.*
- c. To sort: *separate mail by postal zones.*
2. To differentiate or discriminate between; distinguish: *a researcher who separated the various ethnic components of the population sample.*
3. To remove from a mixture or combination; isolate.
4. To part (a couple), often by decree: *She was separated from her husband last year.*
5. To terminate a contractual relationship, as military service, with; discharge.

v. intr.

1. To come apart.
2. To withdraw: *The state threatened to separate from the Union.*
3. To part company; disperse.

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4. To stop living together as spouses.
5. To become divided into components or parts: *Oil and water tend to separate.*

*adj.* (sěp'ər-ĩt, səp'rĩt)

1. Set or kept apart; disunited: *Libraries often have a separate section for reference books.*
2.
  - a. Existing as an independent entity.
  - b. often **Separate** Having undergone schism or estrangement from a parent body:  
*Separate churches.*
3. Dissimilar from all others; distinct: “a policeman's way of being separate from you even when he was being nice” (John le Carré).
4. Not shared; individual: *two people who held separate views on the issue.*
5. *Archaic.* Withdrawn from others; solitary.

*n.* (sěp'ər-ĩt, səp'rĩt)

A garment, such as a skirt, jacket, or pair of slacks, that may be purchased separately and worn in various combinations with other garments.

[Middle English *separaten*, from Latin *sēparātus*, past participle of *sēparāre*: *sē-*, *apart*; see *s(w)e-* in Indo-European Roots + *parāre*, *to prepare*; see *per-*<sup>1</sup> in Indo-European Roots.]

**sep' a·rate·ly** *adv.*

**sep a·rate·ness** *n.*

**Synonyms:** *separate, divide, part, sever, sunder, divorce*

These verbs mean to become or cause to become parted, disconnected, or disunited. *Separate* applies both to putting apart and to keeping apart: “In the darkness and confusion, the bands of these commanders became separated from each other” (Washington Irving). *Divide* implies

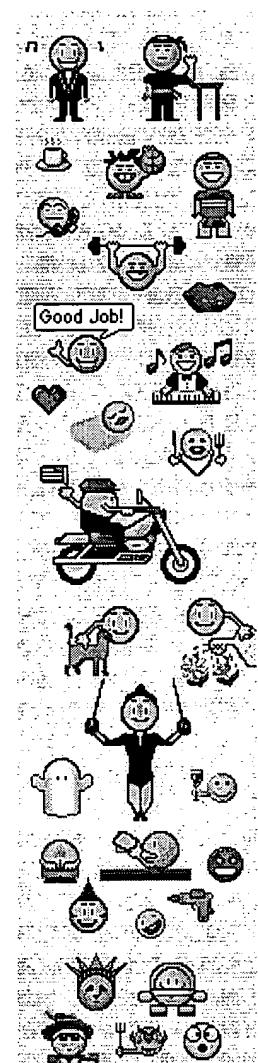
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separation by or as if by cutting or splitting into parts or shares; the term often refers to separation into opposing or hostile groups: *We divided the orange into segments.* “‘A house divided against itself cannot stand.’ I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free” (Abraham Lincoln). *Part* refers most often to the separation of closely associated persons or things: “Because... nothing that God or Satan could inflict would have parted us” (Emily Brontë). *Sever* usually implies abruptness and force: “His head was nearly severed from his body” (H.G. Wells). *Sunder* stresses violent tearing or wrenching apart: *The country was sundered by civil war.* *Divorce* implies complete separation: “a priest and a soldier, two classes of men circumstantially divorced from the kind and homely ties of life” (Robert Louis Stevenson). See also synonyms at distinct

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**separate**

\Sep"a\*rate\, v. t. [imp. & p. p. Separated; p. pr. & vb. n. Separating.] [L. separatus, p. p. of separare to separate; pfref. se- aside + parare to make ready, prepare. See Parade, and cf. Sever.] 1. To disunite; to divide; to disconnect; to sever; to part in any manner.

From the fine gold I separate the alloy. --Dryden.

Separate thyself, I pray thee, from me. --Gen. xiii. 9.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? --Rom. viii. 35.

2. To come between; to keep apart by occupying the space between; to lie between; as, the Mediterranean Sea separates Europe and Africa.

3. To set apart; to select from among others, as for a special use or service.

Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. --Acts xiii. 2.

Separated flowers (Bot.), flowers which have stamens and pistils in separate flowers; diclinous flowers. --Gray.

Source: *Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary*, © 1996, 1998 MICRA, Inc.

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**separate**

\Sep"a\*rate\, v. i. To part; to become disunited; to be disconnected; to withdraw from one another; as, the family separated.

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**separate**

\Sep"a\*rate\, p. a. [L. separatus, p. p. ] 1. Divided from another or others; disjoined; disconnected; separated; -- said of things once connected.

Him that was separate from his brethren. --Gen. xlix. 26.

2. Unconnected; not united or associated; distinct; -- said of things that have not been connected.

For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinnere. --Heb. vii. 26.

3. Disunited from the body; disembodied; as, a separate spirit; the separate state of souls.

Separate estate (Law), an estate limited to a married woman independent of her husband.

Separate maintenance (Law), an allowance made to a wife by her husband under deed of separation. --  
Sep\ "a\*rate\*ly, adv. -- Sep\ "a\*rate\*ness, n.

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## separate

adj 1: independent; not united or joint; "a problem consisting of two separate issues"; "they went their separate ways"; "formed a separate church" [ant: joint]  
2: individual and distinct; "pegged down each separate branch to the earth"; "a gift for every single child" [syn: single(a)]  
3: standing apart; not attached to or supported by anything; "a freestanding bell tower"; "a house with a separate garage" [syn: freestanding]  
4: not living together as man and wife; "decided to live apart"; "maintaining separate households"; "they are separated" [syn: apart(p), separated]  
5: characteristic of or meant for a single person or thing; "an individual serving"; "separate rooms"; "single occupancy"; "a single bed" [syn: individual, single(a)]  
6: separated according to race, sex, class, or religion; "separate but equal"; "girls and boys in separate classes"  
7: have the connection undone; having become separate [syn: disjoined]  
n 1: a separately printed article that originally appeared in a larger publication [syn: offprint, reprint]  
2: a garment that can be purchased separately and worn in combinations with other garments  
v 1: act as a barrier between; stand between: "The mountain range divides the two countries" [syn: divide]  
2: force, take, or pull apart; "He separated the fighting children"; "Moses parted the Red Sea" [syn: disunite, divide, part]  
3: mark as different; "We distinguish several kinds of maple" [syn: distinguish, differentiate, secern, secernate,

severalize, tell, tell apart] 4: separate into parts or portions; "divide the cake into three equal parts"; "The British carved up the Ottoman Empire after World War I" [syn: divide, split, split up, dissever, carve up] [ant: unite] 5: divide into components or constituents; "Separate the wheat from the chaff" 6: arrange or order by classes or categories; "How would you classify these pottery shards--are they prehistoric?" [syn: classify, class, sort, assort, sort out] 7: make a division or separation [syn: divide] 8: discontinue an association or relation; go different ways; "The business partners broke over a tax question"; "The couple separated after 25 years of marriage"; "My friend and I split up" [syn: part, split up, split, break, break up] 9: go one's own away; move apart; "The friends separated after the party" [syn: part, split] 10: become separated into pieces or fragments; "The figurine broke"; "The freshly baked loaf fell apart" [syn: break, split up, fall apart, come apart] 11: treat differently on the basis of sex or race [syn: discriminate, single out] 12: come apart; "The two pieces that we had glued separated" [syn: divide, part] 13: divide into two or more branches; "The road forks" [syn: branch, ramify, fork]

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